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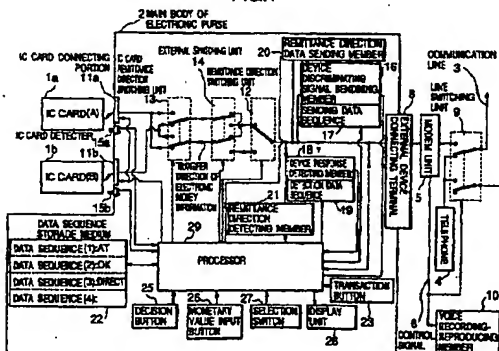
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(54) **Electronic purse**

(57) A processor 29 automatically sets a direction of transferring electronic money information depending on the existence of IC cards 1a, 1b connected to IC card

connecting portions 11a, 11b, and the existence of an external device connected to an external device connecting terminal 8, thus making instructing operations for transferring electronic money information easier.

FIG. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 30 5379

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 9 February 2001	Examiner Aup121s, B
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document</p> <p>T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application I: document cited for other reasons A: member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 as at (March 2001)

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<p>*This present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
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CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		<p>Y: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons A: member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>	
<p>Z: prior art relevant to the invention V: prior art relevant to the invention, but not relevant to the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document</p>			

Form 1501 (2-9-99) (P.O. 1501)



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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B

Application Number
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-8

Electronic purse comprising switching means so that electronic money can be received and sent between the IC card reading and writing means and the external device connecting terminal and an external device detecting means for detecting a response from the external device connected to the external device connecting terminal.

2. Claims: 9-10

Electronic purse comprising means for sending information regarding the construction of the electronic purse before sending electronic money information through the external device connecting terminal.

3. Claim : 11

Electronic purse comprising a lump-sum remittance button and a lump-sum remittance button operation detecting means.

4. Claims: 12-13

An electronic purse comprising a lump-sum drawing button.

5. Claim : 14

An electronic purse comprising a transaction button, numerical input means, an instruction decision button, a remittance direction detecting means.

6. Claims: 15-16

An electronic purse comprising a modem, a transaction button, telephone receiver means for outputting voice information received through a communication line.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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